

# PUBLIC SAFETY

## GOAL

Provide for public safety through a community-based approach that focuses on prevention of problems in a timely manner.

The City provides trained staff and funding

MEASURE	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Target
Total Police Services Funding	\$23,997,564	\$25,608,694	\$25,154,156	\$25,215,927	\$26,089,620	N/A
Total Fire and Emergency Management Services Funding	\$19,628,244	\$19,997,924	\$20,365,020	\$21,338,549	\$22,565,224	N/A
Sworn Police FTE's (authorized) per 1,000 population	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	N/A
Paid Fire and EMS staffing per 1,000 population served	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	N/A

So that...

Emergency services provide timely responses

EMS response times under 5 minutes	69%	51%	49%	49%	59%	90%
Fire response times under 5.5 minutes	62%	48%	48%	35%	48%	90%
Building fires contained to area of origin	56%	50%	55%	60%	60%	60%

So that...

Residents are prepared for an emergency and feel safe

Residents have at least two working smoke detectors in their residence	*	97%	*	95%	*	100%
Residents are prepared for a three day emergency	*	62%	*	65%	*	90%
Residents feel safe walking in their neighborhoods after dark	*	82%	*	82%	*	80%
Residents feel safe walking in their neighborhoods during the day	*	97%	*	97%	*	90%

So that...

All those who live, work and play in Kirkland are safe.

\* Community survey occurs in even years

## HOW DO WE MEASURE PUBLIC SAFETY?

Staffing and funding help the City to provide timely responses to emergencies. Response times and containing fires to the area of origin are proxy measures for good performance. The likelihood of a successful outcome is higher the faster emergency services can reach the site of the emergency. Factors that affect response times include the distances between a station and the incident, geographical barriers and traffic.

Having adequate Police staffing allows for the department to have timely responses to emergencies and non-emergencies alike. Adequate police staffing provides not only a measure of security and safety for the public, but also for the officers themselves.

Measures from the community survey provide standard indicators of how residents feel about public safety and how well they are prepared for emergencies. Since annexation, residents of the "existing" Kirkland continue to comment that there has been no drop in public safety services, while residents in the annexation areas continue to be satisfied with the police presence and response times.

# HOW ARE WE DOING?

2017 has been a year of transition for the Kirkland Police Department (KPD) due to anticipated retirements of veteran officers and the subsequent hiring of 15 new police officers. Seasoned personnel have stepped up to mentor our recruits recently graduated from the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Academy. They hand down their pride in service based on the values of our newly minted mission statement, "The mission of the Kirkland Police Department is to protect and serve our community with honor, integrity and courage." The department has maintained the high level of service for which the KPD is known.

Whether a minor injury or a complex, life-threatening event, Kirkland Fire Department (KFD) responds around the clock with trained, equipped and operationally ready personnel. Five fire stations, strategically positioned throughout our community, respond to the wide variety of emergencies that occur in our community. 9-1-1 calls for emergency medical services (EMS) account for the largest percentage of our emergency responses.

One or two KFD response vehicles staffed by Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) handle most EMS incidents. Our EMT personnel manage the treatment and transport of patients with Basic Life Support (BLS) needs. Patients with more severe injuries or illnesses, or those requiring Advance Life Support (ALS),

may require the support of paramedics from a neighboring agency, including those from Redmond, Shoreline, or Bellevue. With 2,500 hours of initial training and the support of King County Emergency Medical Services, the paramedics in King County's Medic One program are among the world's best. This BLS – ALS partnership between Kirkland Fire and our paramedic colleagues contributes to King County's successful and highly regarded EMS system.

Kirkland Fire also maintains "all-hazards" response capabilities that match the risks in our community including those encompassing technical rescue, high-angle rope rescue; confined space, trench, motor vehicle, and collapse rescue; hazardous materials response; and water rescue. In 2016 KFD placed two water rescue craft in service to better protect users of our beautiful shoreline.

Regional public safety and local community partnerships enhance our operational effectiveness. Kirkland is highly engaged with King County EMS and is an active partner with the East Metro Training Group (EMTG), a collection of fire departments providing unified training to area firefighters. Collaborations across north and east King County ensure the entire region maintains robust hazardous materials and technical rescue response capabilities.



As a fully accredited agency, the Kirkland Police Department has a long history of being an effective, responsive and professional agency. The dedicated men and women who choose to serve this community do so with courage, determination and self-sacrifice.

Specialty cadres and assignments allow individuals to train and equip to the highest standards. This includes those most visible, such as our front line Patrol Officers, K-9 Officer, Neighborhood Resource Officer and School Resource Officers. It also includes those less visible, but just as integral to the successful workings of the department, such as those who specialize in Investigations, Crisis Intervention, Less Lethal tactics, Honor Guard, and Hostage Negotiation, to name a few.

# WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The Police Department continues its commitment to the City of Kirkland through community-based policing utilizing high visibility strategies to reduce crime and maintain a high level of confidence in public safety. At the end of 2016, the Police Strategic Plan was developed in tandem with our community stakeholders to best determine areas of policing priority. 2017 was the first full year of prioritization and the beginning of implementation of the goals identified in the Police Strategic Plan. This includes a strong emphasis on community engagement. As such, command personnel and our Neighborhood Resource Officer make it a priority to participate in neighborhood meetings across the City. We listen to what concerns our neighbors on a day-to-day basis, present safety strategies and educate about our on-line, non-emergent reporting tool, CopLogic.

As a result of the goals defined in the Police Strategic Plan, we have established a detailed work plan and timeline for system and process improvements to include a more proactive patrol model, able to focus on community policing partnerships and crime prevention. This proactive model also calls for the restoration of a ProAct Unit who will focus their efforts on narcotics enforcement and property crimes.

The Kirkland Fire Department is a highly trained and well equipped organization, with the protection of resident's lives, property and the environment as its focus. The Fire Department provides fire prevention inspections of commercial properties, fire related plan checks, fire investigation activities, emergency medical response and transport,

fire suppression, hazardous material release responses, technical and specialized rescue and emergency management and preparedness to the over 86,000 residents of Kirkland.

The Work Program for the Fire Department for 2017 focused on recommendations from the Fire Strategic Plan including:

- Planning for the New Station 24 continued with site acquisition, planning, and construction originally scheduled to occur in 2018 and 2019.
- The City continued to explore options for relocating Station 27 from its current location to an area east of Interstate 405 and near Evergreen Health Medical Center.
- Renovations at Station 25 on Finn Hill began with updates to interior spaces, HVAC systems, and seismic and structural components.
- The department continues efforts to support accreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence.
- The department's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) focused on providing training and support to City of Kirkland staff and volunteers. OEM staff also completed key work on the City's Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government. This work resulted in both plans being adopted by the Kirkland City Council.
- Fire Prevention personnel continued to evaluate software options that support field inspections.